

**MAG  
Park and Ride Study**

**Agency and Public  
Involvement**

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***Final Report***

**January 2001**

prepared for:

Maricopa Association of  
Governments  
Phoenix, Arizona

prepared by:

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# **AGENCY AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**

## **DOCUMENTATION OF PLANNING PROCESS**

The MAG park-and-ride lot study was conducted between January 2000 and January 2001 under the direction of the MAG Senior Engineer. The MAG Regional Council, on which sit representatives (Mayors or other chief representatives as appropriate) of the MAG member municipalities, gave the initial approval to conduct the project and award the consultant contract. As a planning study, the active involvement of the local jurisdictional staff was critical to its success.

The principal means of such participation were a series of eight forums held during the course of the study. Representatives of all interested jurisdictions in the Maricopa region were invited to the meetings. Invitations to participate were made to the MAG Transportation Review Committee, MAG Management Committee and to intergovernmental representatives. A list of representatives attending the agency forums is shown in Appendix A to this report.

Agendas and accompanying information were sent to participants as well as to members of the MAG Management Committee throughout the length of the project to insure wide dissemination of information on a timely basis. Information on the forums, meeting dates, draft working papers, and materials presented at meetings were also posted on MAG's website ([www.mag.maricopa.gov](http://www.mag.maricopa.gov)). A list of persons who attended one or more of these meetings is included in Appendix A at the end of the section. A total of eight such meetings were held during the course of the study. A listing of all meetings held with jurisdictions and/or the public is shown in Table 1.

### ***January 2000 Agency Forum***

The consultant team immediately began work in January on tasks 2 and 3 of the scope, documenting local and national experience in park-and-ride siting projects and developing draft criteria for the selection first of target areas and then of sites. A partnering session and discussion of advanced right-of-way acquisition was held on January 18. At that meeting, it was agreed by the attending participants that advanced land acquisition would be best served by getting through the project as quickly as possible (12 months versus the original 15-18 month scope). The meeting also served as the project kick-off session.

### ***February 2000 Agency Forum***

At the February meeting, the consultant team led a discussion of target area and site selection criteria. Input, both in written and verbal form, from local jurisdiction members and MAG staff was reviewed by the consultants and a revised version submitted to MAG and jurisdiction members for consideration at the April meeting. During this period, the literature review and documentation of local conditions moved forward, resulting in an initial draft of the Task 2 report. Input into this report was obtained from MAG, ADOT, the RPTA, and local jurisdictions

**Table 1. Agency and Public Consultation**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topics Discussed</b>
January 18, 2000	AGENCY FORUM Project Overview Partnering Concepts Advanced Right-of-Way Acquisition Public comment
February 15	AGENCY FORUM Discussion of target area and site evaluation criteria Public comment
April 10	AGENCY FORUM Discussion of working paper on literature review and national and local park-and-ride lot experience Final review of evaluation criteria Discussion of target area boundaries Presentation and discussion of initial findings on Maintenance and Operations costs Public comment
May 2	AGENCY FORUM Presentation and discussion of design guidelines Discussion of recommendations on initial target areas to take into site identification process Discussion of site identification process Public comment
June 12	AGENCY FORUM Presentation and discussion of target area analysis and recommendations Presentation and discussion of work to date on site identification and analysis Presentation on City of Phoenix Transit Plan Discussion of express bus methodology Public comment
July 25	ADOT CITIZEN'S TRANSPORTATION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE Briefing on project
August 15	AGENCY FORUM Discussion of revisions to target area analysis and recommended shortlist Presentation and discussion of revised maintenance and operations costs and draft maintenance and operations agreements Public comment
December 1	AGENCY FORUM Presentation and discussion of site identification and analysis Discussion of prioritization of target areas and sites Discussion of programming, costs and sponsorship Discussion of Draft Final Report Public comment

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topics Discussed</b>
December 11	AGENCY FORUM AND PUBLIC HEARING Discussion of final recommended programming Discussion of draft Final Report Executive Summary Draft Maintenance and Operations Plan update Opportunity for formal public comment
December 12	TRANSPORTATION REVIEW COMMITTEE Presentation of Recommendations Opportunity for formal public comment
January 10, 2001	MAG MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE Presentation of Recommendations Opportunity for formal public comment
January 24, 2001	MAG REGIONAL COUNCIL Approval of Recommendations Opportunity for formal public comment

within the region, as well as from transit properties elsewhere in the country, including Seattle, Portland, Denver and Houston. The Literature Review was presented April, with comments incorporated into this Final Report.

### ***April 2000 Agency Forum***

As a result of discussion at the February meeting, it was determined that early information on operations and maintenance costs would be helpful to the local jurisdictions. Therefore, work on documenting such costs was moved up several months, with a draft report presented at the April gathering. The April session also saw final discussion of the target area and site-specific criteria as well as discussion of target area boundaries. This latter discussion was critical in that it determined which areas would be examined in the target area analysis that would ultimately result in the areas that would qualify for a park-and-ride lot. Agreement was achieved on the establishment of 32 target areas, covering most of the current and planned freeway network in the region.

### ***May 2000 Agency Forum***

During April and May, the consultant team analyzed the 32 target areas and prepared an evaluation based on the target area criteria. In order to keep the project on schedule, several target areas that ranked quite well in the initial analysis and that were in areas where local jurisdictions had clearly documented funding sources, were recommended for early site identification and analysis (Task 5). This proposal was discussed at the May meeting and agreed to by the participants. The May meeting also featured a discussion of park-and-ride design standards that would be important in determining development cost, minimum site size and other site determinants. Revisions to the Design Standards, based on the comments received, are incorporated into this Final Report.

In addition, during May, the MAG Management Committee was surveyed concerning the short-list of target areas.

### ***June 2000 Agency Forum***

The initial phase of the target area evaluation was completed in late May, with information presented to the June interjurisdictional meeting. Delays in obtaining results of the demand forecast delayed final recommendations on the target areas until later in the summer. Several additional target areas were move forward into the site identification and analysis phase while modeling work continued. The June session also considered some initial data from the site identification work begun after the May meeting.

This site identification work involved a number of steps beginning with discussions with local jurisdictions, discussions with ADOT concerning surplus property, and analysis of recent aerial photographs of each target area. Field investigations were an important element and involved traffic and design engineers, environmental planners, and transit specialists. The results of the various site identification efforts were lists of two to five sites in each of the target areas. Zoning information was obtained on each, and a land cost estimate was made. Members of the consultant team developed specific information within their areas of specialty. Aerial photographs of each site area were eventually obtained and ingress and egress locations marked. Finally, the consultant team evaluated each site against the site selection criteria and developed a draft ranking of sites within each target area.

### ***August 2000 Agency Forum***

In August, with the demand modeling concluded, the next meeting was held and considered the final target area recommendations. A total of 19 target areas were recommended, with a twentieth spot reserved for future assignment based on local jurisdiction input. No revisions to the list were suggested. The jurisdictions also reviewed a revised Maintenance and Operations Cost report as well as various types of interlocal agreements that could apply to park-and-ride sites in the area. The sample agreements were gathered from other transit agencies in the country (Portland, Seattle and Denver, for example) that have extensive agreements already in place.

Also during August, the MAG Management Committee and the local jurisdictions were surveyed concerning recommended sites for analysis.

### ***December 1, 2000 Agency Forum***

The fall was spent completing the site identification and analysis work on all 19 target areas. Upon completion of the evaluation, work commenced on the programming task. Programming entailed selecting the preferred site for each target area, determining cost by phase (design, land acquisition, construction, operation), and ranking the target areas from one through nineteen in terms of their priority for inclusion in MAG's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The draft recommendations of this prioritization effort were presented at the December 1 meeting, as were the results of the site analysis.

### ***December 11, 2000 Agency Forum and Public Hearing***

Based on comments received, revisions to the prioritization and the site analysis were made, a final programming report prepared, and the executive summary of the Final Report drafted for consideration at a final meeting held on December 11. The December 11 meeting was also announced as a formal public meeting on the project. Public Service Announcements (PSA) were distributed to the local media. One member of the public did attend and requested that consideration be given to close-in park-and-ride lots that could be used by Phoenix residents desiring bus service to suburban locations. Title VI and Environmental Justice representatives from throughout the region (30 people) were invited to the public meeting. (The list of invitees is included at the end of this section.) Title VI and Environmental Justice populations will also be actively involved in the detailed environmental reviews that must be conducted prior to construction of any of the facilities using federal dollars or requiring federal permits. (It should be noted that a public comment period was the first agenda item at each meeting of the local jurisdictions. The only comment received was at their December 11<sup>th</sup> meeting.)

### ***December 2000 Transportation Review Committee Meeting***

The recommendations were then passed on to the Transportation Review Committee at their regularly scheduled meeting of December 12. Again, the opportunity for public comment was given, though no comments were received. The TRC recommended approval of the study.

### ***January 2001 MAG Management Committee Meeting***

The MAG Management Committee met on January 10 to consider the study recommendations. A public comment period was again provided for, with no comments received. The Management Committee recommended approval of the study's recommendations.

### ***January 2001 MAG Regional Council Meeting***

Final consideration was then given by the MAG Regional Council at its regularly scheduled meeting of January 24, 2001. The Regional Council approved the study recommendations. An opportunity for comment was afforded to the public, and one gentleman stated that the park-and-ride lots should open at the same time as new freeway segments are completed. It should be noted that all public comment at the TRC, Management Committee and Regional Council were recorded.

## Attendees at MAG Park-and-Ride Jurisdictional Meetings

<b><u>MAG REGION MUNICIPALITIES</u></b>	
David Cano, Avondale	Burton Charron, Peoria
Ron Dunkirk, Avondale (formerly)	Jack Kaufman, Peoria
Debbie Kohn, Avondale	Bob Antila, Phoenix
Lee San Miguel, Avondale	Don Herp, Phoenix
Michael E. Normand, Chandler	Alan Hilty, Phoenix
Ron Phares, Gilbert	Bob Lutz, Phoenix
Tami Ryall, Gilbert	Dave MacDonald, Phoenix
Diane Adams, Glendale	Jim Mathien, Phoenix
James Book, Glendale	Mark Reddie, Phoenix
Terry Johnson, Glendale	Debra Astin, Scottsdale
Larry Martinez, Goodyear	Robert Brown, Scottsdale (formerly)
Chris McMurdy, Goodyear	Aaron Iverson, Scottsdale
Christine Simmons, Mesa	Gary Davis, Tempe
Jim Wright, Mesa	Manuel Dominguez, Tolleson
Walt Begley, Peoria	Dick Gregory, Youngtown
<b><u>MAG</u></b>	
Eric Anderson, Roger Herzog, Terry Johnson (formerly), Chris Voigt (MAG Project Manager)	
<b><u>RPTA</u></b>	
Mark McLaren, Randi Alcott, Steven Brown, James Dickey, Bryan Jungwirth, Randall Overmyer	
<b><u>ADOT</u></b>	
Dale Buskirk, Chuck Eaton, Steve Hansen, Bill Hayden, Dan Lance, Joe Neblett, Brian Rockwell, Bill Sapper, Ungyo Lynn Sugiyama	
<b><u>MCDOT</u></b>	
Thomas Madden, Tim Oliver, Michael Sabatini	
<b><u>FHWA</u></b>	
Ron Hill, Ed Stillings, Bill Vachon	
<b><u>PROJECT CONSULTANTS</u></b>	
KJS Associates, Inc.: Chuck Kirchner (Project Manager), Karen Savage, Joseph Savage, Jr. P.E., Mark Sullivan	
HLB Decision Economics: Robert Schaevitz, Khalid Bekka	
INCA Engineers, Inc.: Mark Wavering, Jim Paustian	
Logan Simpson Design: Caryn Logan Heaps, Ashley Kowallis, Monina Ramirez (former)	
Loper and Associates: Greg Loper, John Loper	
Kittelson Associates, Inc.: Alan Danaher	

## **Distribution List of Title VI Representation**

Executive Director  
Community Action Association

Governor Donald Antone  
Gila River Indian Community

Francisca Aragon  
Chicanos Por La Causa

Robert Beauvais  
Indian Community Health Center

Santo Bernasconi  
Centro De Amistad, Inc.

Betsy Buxer  
The Community Forum

Guy Collison  
United Cerebral Palsy Association

George Dean  
Greater Phoenix Urban League

Arden G. Dorn  
Lutheran Social Ministry of Southwest

Tupac Enrique  
Tonatierra Community Development Institute

Charles Fanniel  
NAACP of Phoenix/Maricopa County

Sandra Ferniza  
Arizona Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Pete L. Garcia  
Chicanos Por La Causa

Donna Gilliland  
Sun Cities Area Transit (SCAT)

Luis Ibarra  
Friendly House, Inc.

Herb Jackson  
Greater Phoenix Urban League

Gilbert Jones, Sr.  
Fort McDowell Indian Community

Jim Lamay  
Arizona Center for the Blind

Leland Leonard  
Phoenix Indian Center, Inc

Lisa M. Lintz  
Centro Adelante Campesino

Lionel Lyons  
Equal Opportunity Phoenix

Honorable Ivan Makil  
Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community

Paul Martodam  
Catholic Social Service of Central Arizona

Guy Mikkelsen  
Foundation for Senior Living

Donna Noland  
Arizona Office for Americans with Disabilities

Captain Robert Rudd  
Salvation Army Division Headquarters

Kip Smith-Murray  
Arizona Recreational Center for the  
Handicapped

Reverend Warren Stewart  
First Institutional Baptist Church

Susan Webb  
Arizona Bridge to Independent Living

Bonnie Wright  
American Red Cross